Saturday, April 4

7:30am Early Spring Birds.  Come and meet some yearly friends who have dropped by or sprung up to say hello!  We'll meet at the Beach Pavilion for a jaunt to the popular bird observation platform.  We'll then set up for a several hour vigil.  Feel free to come and go as you please.  Grab your binoculars or borrow a pair of ours and join us!  BB

10am Feed the Birds.  Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers!  Great fun for the kids.  MB

2pm Early Spring Woodland Wander.  Join us for an special hike to explore the awakening spring forest.  We'll check out the different sights and sounds of the afternoon.  Meet at the Nature Center.  MB

Sunday, April 5

10am Easter Stories in the Sand.  What nature stories lie out there in the sand and forest?  Explore the stories this special morning with Brad.  We'll be using special sand track pads that we baited with scents the night before!  Meet outside the Nature Center.  BB

2pm Another Dam Hike!  Meet the naturalist for a 45-minute easy stroll as we take you to explore some recent beaver activity in the park.  Check out what the beavers are up to this fine day!  Meet at the Campground Gate entrance.  BB

Saturday, April 11

8am 19th Annual Friends Native Plant Sale!  Join the Friends of Indiana Dunes as the 19th Annual Native Plant Sale takes place all morning through 1pm at the Dunes Visitor Center, just outside the park.  Over 100 species of hard to find native plants will be on sale that day.  Come early, before they're gone.  Call the Nature Center at 219-926-1390 for more info.

10am A Salamander Saunter.  Join Matt for an investigative stroll through the dune forests as we log roll our way in search of the various amphibians that call this place home.  Strap on your hiking shoes and join us at the Nature Center.  Total time about 45 minutes.  MB

2pm Scales and Tales!  Join the naturalist in the Nature Center for a 45 minutes program on snakes, frogs, and salamanders.  Participants will get an up close look at live animals.  Great fun for the kids!  MB

7:30pm Bogsucker Ballet!  Join us for a dance, of sorts!  We'll meet at the main entrance parking lot (by the snowpile!) for a 45-minute stealth hike in search of the bogsucker, aka. the woodcock, and his spring courtship dance.  Dress for the weather and prepare for some off-trail hiking.  BB
Sunday, April 12
10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. MB

2pm Sand Dune Trek! Join us at the Nature Center for an hour walk into the high dunes. We’ll explore its creation on this hour hike. MB

Saturday April 18
Visit the Dunes staff at the Earth Day festivities at The Expo Center.
10am Wood Ducks and Marigold Meander! Meet at the Campground Gate for an hour discovery hike this spring day. We’ll traverse parts of Trail 2 in search of flowering marsh marigolds and nesting wood ducks in the oaks above. Bring binoculars if you have some. We’ll be out for an hour or a little more. MB

2pm Are They Here Yet Hike!? Come and meet some yearly friends who have sprung up to say hello! Join Brad for a 45-minute early wildflower foray that begins at the Nature Center. BB

Sunday April 19
10am Fire on the Prairie! Bring out your inner pyro-maniac in this exciting hour at the Nature Center. Learn how prescribed fire is used to help our habitats, and then help the naturalist start a fire if conditions are right! Kids under 12 must have a parent or responsible adult. Join us! MB

2pm Owl Pellet Investigation! Swoop on by for a brief discussion about our local owls. Afterwards, we will then find out what they’ve been having for lunch! Great family fun! Meet in the Nature Center. BB

Saturday, April 25
10am Bird Banding Demonstrations. Explore the science of bird banding this morning at the Nature Center. We’ll throw up the banding nets and look at everything we learn by investigating these birds up close and in the hand. BB

2pm High Tech Scavenger Hunt! Meet us outside the Nature Center for a scavenger hunt of sorts. Using GPS units, we’ll explore the hobby of geocaching and even try to find some prizes of our own. Prizes for all the kids! Great family fun! BB

Sunday, April 26
10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. MB

2pm Dune Birds and Blooms. Explore the exploding forest floor this afternoon. We’ll meet at the Campground Gate and take an easy 60-minute stroll to identify some of the spring ephemerals and recently migrated birds nearby. BB

Make Plans for the inaugural Indiana Dunes Birding Festival!
May 7-10, 2015

www.indunesbirdingfestival.com

Find These Programs and others at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs On-line at www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

Make a campsite or shelter reservation at 1-866-622-6746 or on-line at www.CAMP.IN.gov

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